

SENATE BILL 1928

By Jackson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4 and Title 39, Chapter 16, Part 5, relative to documentation provided by illegal immigrants.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 16, Part 5, is amended by inserting the following as a new section thereto:

(a) It is an offense for any immigrant who is not a legally documented immigrant to the United States to provide any public servant with documentation that states or implies, or would lend that public servant to believe, that the immigrant is a legally documented immigrant to the United States, knowing that the documentation is false or inapplicable to such immigrant, for the purpose of receiving any public benefit provided by the state to indigent persons, including but not limited to post-secondary educational grants, scholarships, or other reductions of fees or tuition, public health benefits provided by the department of health or provided through the bureau of TennCare, food stamps and other financial benefits provided by the department of human services, and public housing benefits.

(b) A violation of this section is a Class C felony.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.